

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the thorough examination of the present application as evidenced by the Final Office Action mailed August 13, 2007 (hereinafter "Office Action"). In response, Applicants have amended independent Claims 1 and 20 to clarify that the elongated second portion of the flexible film extends away from an inner end and a first portion of the flexible film to an outer end and a speaker connected thereto along at least a portion of a length defined by the inner and outer ends. Applicants respectfully submit that the cited reference fails to disclose or suggest, at least, the recitations of the independent claims as amended. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of all pending claims is respectfully requested for at least the reasons discussed hereafter.

Independent Claims 1 and 20 are Patentable

Independent Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by International Publication No. WO 02/35810 to Nevermann (hereinafter "Nevermann") with reference being made to U. S. Patent Application No. 6,980,157 as the English translation of the Nevermann reference. (Office Action, page 2). Independent Claim 20 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nevermann in view of U. S. Patent No. 6,741,221 to Aisenbrey (hereinafter "Aisenbrey"). (Office Action, pages 4 - 6). As stated above, independent Claims 1 and 20 have been amended to clarify that the elongated second portion of the flexible film extends away from an inner end and the first portion of the flexible film to an outer end and a speaker connected thereto along at least a portion of its length, which is defined by the first and second ends. For example, Claim 1 recites, in part:

a sheet of a flexible film having a conductive first portion forming a first antenna element; and

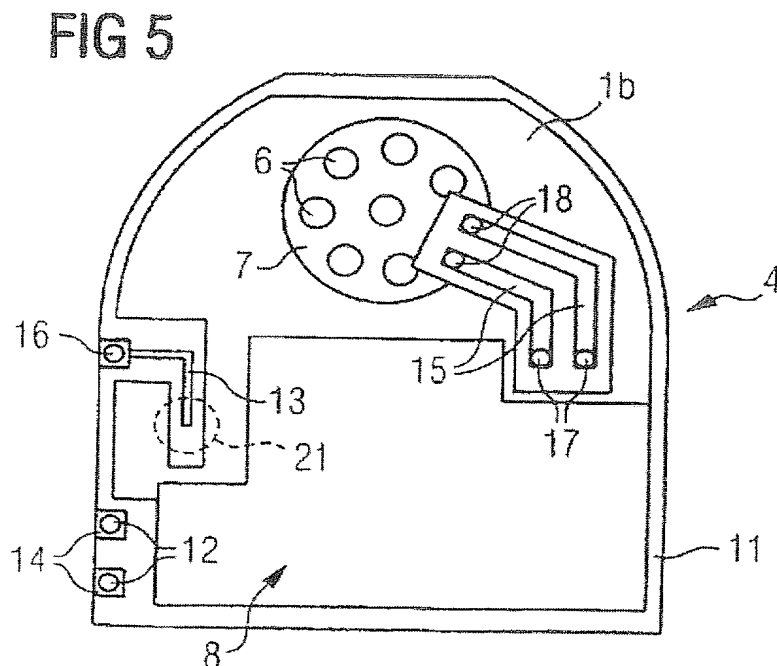
an elongated second portion carrying a conductive lead, the elongated second portion including an inner end that is adjacent to the conductive first portion and an outer end that is connected to a speaker, such that the elongated second portion has a length defined by the inner end and the outer end and extends away from the conductive first portion and the inner end to the speaker and the outer end along at least a portion of the length;

wherein said elongated second portion is bent such that said speaker and said outer end of said elongated second portion are positioned at an aperture in said first portion. (Emphasis added).

Independent Claim 20 includes similar recitations. As shown in FIGS. 5 and 9 of the

present application, the elongated second portion 33 includes an inner end that is adjacent to the first portion 31 and an outer end that is connected to a speaker 41. The second portion extends away from the inner end and the first portion to the outer end and the speaker connected thereto along at least a portion of its length defined by the inner and outer ends. Because the second portion 33 is flexible, the second portion may be bent to loop back over the first portion 31 to position the speaker and the outer end at the aperture 32 as shown in FIG. 9.

The Office Action alleges that the conducting area 1b corresponds to the flexible film and the conductive first portion, and the conducting patterns 15 correspond to the elongated second portion as shown in FIG. 5 of Nevermann. (Office Action, pages 2, 5, and 6). For convenience, FIG. 5 of Nevermann is reproduced below:



The Office Action further alleges that contact points 18 correspond to the outer end of the elongated second portion (Office Action, page 6), which means that the contact points 17 correspond to the inner end of the elongated second portion. Independent Claims 1 and 20, however, describe the elongated second portion as extending away from the conductive first portion and the inner end of the elongated second portion to the speaker and the outer end of the elongated second portion along a length of the elongated second

portion defined by the inner and outer ends. As can be seen from FIG. 5 of Nevermann reproduced above, the conductive patterns 15 do not extend away from the conducting area 1b when traversing from the contact points 17 to the contact points 18, but instead extend towards the conducting area 1b when traversing from the contact points 17 to the contact points 18.

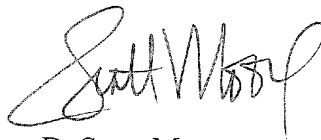
The secondary reference Aisenbrey is merely cited for teaching the use of an insulating material in a flexible film and fails to provide the teachings missing above from Nevermann.

For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 1 and 20 are patentable over Nevermann and that Claims 2 - 19 and 21 - 23 are patentable for at least the reason that they depend from an allowable claim.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the above-entitled application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (919) 854-1400.

Respectfully submitted,




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CERTIFICATION OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via the Office electronic filing system in accordance with § 1.6(a)(4) to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on November 2, 2007.



Susan E. Freedman
Date of Signature: November 2, 2007